



COLORADO
Department of
Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Colorado Commission on Higher Education Statement on International Students

DENVER, March 14, 2017: The Colorado Commission on Higher Education issued the following statement today on international students:

“Since its founding, Colorado has attracted and welcomed bright minds and hard workers from around the globe—especially to our world-class colleges and universities.

Recent federal actions have caused concern among current and prospective students about their acceptance in the United States. Some international students around the world are even reassessing their decision to study here. The Colorado Commission on Higher Education is proud of the way our campuses have stepped up to defend and uphold the powerful tenet of inclusion. We maintain the value of diversity on our campuses as an instrument to foster understanding and to help unite us as a stronger, more vibrant state. We reaffirm our commitment to providing safe, welcoming, world-class education to all our students.”

The Commission decided to take action after hearing concerns from campus leaders around the state about anxiety among current students and the possibility of decreasing enrollments of international students. Colorado had more than 11,340 international students enrolled in academic year 2015-16. Those students contributed an estimated \$375 million to the Colorado economy, according to NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

About the Colorado Commission on Higher Education

As the central policy and coordinating board for Colorado’s system of public higher education, the [Colorado Commission on Higher Education](#) serves as a bridge among the Governor, the General Assembly, and the governing boards of the state-supported institutions of higher education. CCHHE’s mission is to provide access to high-quality, affordable education for all Colorado residents that is student-centered, quality driven and performance-based.

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